

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 01252 172138Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-10 SAB-02 /029 W
-----033777 172143Z /63

P R 172040Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0536

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1252

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACT CANAL TREATY APPROVAL

1. LOCAL REACTION TO SENATE PASSAGE OF CANAL NEUTRALITY TREATY
STRONGLY FAVORABLE BUT TEMPERED BY DOUBT ABOUT PANAMANIAN
REACTION TO AMENDMENTS.

2. MARCH 17 DAILIES LA NACION AND LA REPUBLICA GAVE WIRE-
SERVICE COMPILATIONS STRAIGHT PLAY, FRONT-PAGE HEADLINES
"U.S. SENATE APPROVES FIRST CANAL TREATY;" "APPROVE
NEUTRALITY OF PANAMA CANAL."

3. ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT TO DATE LA NACION INTERNATIONAL
EDITOR EJKARDO ULIBARRI ANALYSIS, "A VICTORY WITH REVERSES
FOR THE TREATIES," WHICH STATED: "THE SENATE RATIFICATION
YESTERDAY OF ONE OF THE CANAL TREATIES COULD BE DESCRIBED
IN MILITARY TERMS AS A VICTORY WITH GREAT CASUALTIES.
THE FACT THAT THE NEUTRALITY PACT WAS APPROVED CONSTITUTES
A TRIUMPH FOR PROPONENTS OF A TOTAL ACCORD BETWEEN
THE U.S. AND PANAMANIAN. BUT THE AMENDMENTS INTRODUCED
TO THE ORIGINAL TEXT COULD GIVE THIS ACCORD THE CHARACTER
OF IMPOSITION OF A STRONG COUNTRY OVER A WEAK ONE, AND
PRODUCE REJECTIONIST SENTIMENT IN MANY SECTORS IN PANAMA."

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAN JO 01252 172138Z

3. PRESIDENT DANIEL ODUBER AND PRESIDENT-ELECT RODRIGO
CARAZO STATEMENTS ON TREATY PASSAGE AIRED MARCH 16 NIGHT
NEWCASTS. EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

ODUBER: "I DO NOT YET THOROUGHLY KNOW THE AMENDMENTS
I'M TOLD WERE GOI
TO BE INTRODUCED TO THE TREATY, BUT IF

ALL THESE LEGAL PROVISIONS ARE ACCEPTABLE TO THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE, I WOULD SAY A FIGHT HAS BEEN WON FOR ALL AMERICA, AND THAT THE U.S. HAS SHOWN TO THE WORLD THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE AS EQUAL TO EQUAL, BETWEEN A LARGE COUNTRY AND A SMALL COUNTRY IN THE AMERICAN HEMISPHERE. THE APPROVAL OF THE TREATY HAS PROFOUND MEANING AND I WILL DEDICATE MYSELF, IN MY FEW REMAINING DAYS AS PRESIDENT, TO MAKE IT KNOWN AS SUCH TO ALL THE GROUPS AND COUNTRIES FROM WHOM I ASKED FOR PATIENCE FROM DURING THE MANY YEARS IT TOOK TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS AND ARRIVE AT A TREATY....IN REGARD TO PRESIDENT CARTER, SINCE HIS ELECTION I'VE NOTED THAT LATIN AMERICA MEANT SOMETHING TO HIM, AND IN THE TIMES I HAVE TALKED WITH HIM AND HIS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT LATIN AMERICA HAS MUCH TO HOPE FOR UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF JIMMY CARTER."

CARAZO: "THE U.S. SENATE APPROVAL OF THE NEUTRALITY TREATY OF THE PANAMA CANAL CONSTITUTES A MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN-U.S. RELATIONS. THE GREAT STRUGGLE SUSTAINED BY THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA HAS ENDED IN AN ACT OF JUSTICE WHICH WILL STRENGTHEN INTERAMERICAN RELATIONS AND CONSOLIDATE RIGHT AND RESPECT AS THE SUPREME RULE OF CO-EXISTENCE." STOLZENBACH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TREATY SIGNATURE, CANALS, NEUTRALISM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANJO01252
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780119-1150
Format: TEL
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780354/aaaabtns.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9e8617c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3289847
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACT CANAL TREATY APPROVAL
TAGS: SOPN, EWWT, PGOV, CS, PN, US
To: USIA STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9e8617c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014